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STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Public Hearing on

Proposed Part 70 Air Operating Renewal and Modification
and the Associated Environmental Assessment Statement

For

Murphy Oil USA, Incorporated/

Meraux

Refinery

Meraux, St. Bernard, Louisiana

held at the Big Tent located at 8201 West
Judge Perez Drive, Chalmette, Louisiana 70043 on
Tuesday, June 19, 2007, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

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Smith, III, attorney for the Office of the Secretary,
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and
proceeded as follows:)

(Lighting and thunderstorm begins with a pouring rain.)

MR. SMITH:

Good evening. Would you take your seats,
please? I ask that you please take your seats before
you're washed away. Let the Record reflect that the
time now is 6:01 p.m. My name is O.C. Smith. I am
employed with the Louisiana Department of Environmental
Quality. I will be serving as the hearing officer this
evening, Tuesday, June 19, 2007.

This hearing is scheduled to accept public
comments concerning the proposed permit and associated
environmental assessment statement for Murphy Oil, USA,
Incorporated/ Meraux Refinery, Meraux, Louisiana, St.
Bernard Parish, Agency No. 1238, Permit No. 2500-00001-
V2 and Activity Tracking No. PER20050006. The site is
located at 2500 East St. Bernard Highway, Meraux, St.
Bernard, Louisiana.

Murphy Oil USA, Incorporated (MOU) produces
various petroleum products at the Meraux Refinery.

Murphy Oil USA, Incorporated (MOU) requests
to renew and modify the existing Meraux Refinery permit
to incorporate the Clean Fuels Phase I updated project
and prevention of significant deterioration (PSD)

review. The Clean Fuel Phase I project, including the
updates netted out of the PSD requirements. In
addition, MOU proposes to reduce the sulfur content in
the fuels to below 10 ppm.

5 In order to achieve this goal, MOU will
6 revamp the fluid catalytic cracking units (FCC) by
7 reducing the excess oxygen in the regenerator without
8 any change in its capacity or throughput, revamp the
9 middle distillate hydrotreater by increasing the pump
10 and compression capacity, and other minor changes which
11 will not increase the firing rate of the heaters.

12 Other modifications are the increase in
13 storage capacity; vent gas reduction by routing them to
14 the fuel gas system (FGS), add a new boiler approved
15 earlier under Part 70 General Permit No. 3029-V0 dated
16 3/31/2006. The Clean Fuels Phase II Project netted out
17 of PSD review.

18 The EAS submitted by the applicant addresses
19 avoidance of potential and real environmental effects,
20 balancing of social and economic benefits against
21 environmental impact costs, and alternative sites,
22 projects, and mitigative measures.

23 This hearing is not being conducted in a
24 question and answer format. Please remember that the
25 purpose of this public hearing is for DEQ to receive

1 your comments concerning the proposed permit and
2 associated environmental assessment statement (EAS).
3 This hearing is to provide all individuals a chance to
4 be heard regardless of their position on the Proposed
5 Permit and Associated EAS.

6 Courteous behavior is expected of everyone at
7 all times. You may speak in support of the proposed
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8 permit; in opposition to the proposed permit; or simply
9 to provide additional information. All interested
10 parties will be given a reasonable opportunity to
11 comment, unless testimony is not related to the purpose
12 of the hearing. Your comments will be evaluated and
13 addressed in the Department's written response.

14 A public notice advertising this public
15 hearing and request for public comment on the proposed
16 permit and associated EAS was published in The
17 Advocate, The Times Picayune, and The St. Bernard Voice
18 newspapers on May 11, 2007.

19 A copy of the Proposed part 70 Air Operating
20 Permit Renewal and Modification and the associated
21 Environmental Assessment Statement is available for
22 inspection and review at the LDEQ, Public Records
23 Center, Room 127, 602 North 5th Street, Baton Rouge,
24 Louisiana. Viewing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.,
25 Monday through Friday, except holidays. The available

1 information can also be accessed electronically on the
2 Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) on the DEQ
3 public website at www.deq.louisiana.gov. Additional
4 copies are also available for review at the New Orleans
5 Parish Library, Headquarters, 219 Loyola Avenue, New
6 Orleans, Louisiana 70112. In addition, copies of the
7 public notice were mailed to individuals who have
8 requested to be placed on the mailing list maintained
9 by the Office of Environmental Services on May 10,
10 2007.

11 In accordance with Louisiana Administrative
12 Code, Title 33, Part III, Section 531. a. 3. c, comments
13 received by 12:30 p.m., Thursday, June 21, 2007, will
14 be considered prior to a final decision. All comments
15 received by 12:30 p.m., Thursday, June 21, 2007, shall
16 be retained by the Department and considered in
17 determining whether to issue or deny the proposed
18 permit and associated EAS.

19 Written comments on this proposed permit and
20 associated EAS may be submitted to Ms. Soumaya Ghosn,
21 LDEQ-OES, Environmental Assistance Division, P. O. Box
22 4313, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313.

23 Under Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 30,
24 Section 2017, as revised by the Legislature in the 2004
25 session, the Department is required to follow the

6

1 following order with the provision that the presiding
2 officer may give preference to a public official to
3 speak at any time during the hearing. However, any
4 time limit set for citizen testimony shall apply to
5 public officials.

6 The Department is required to provide up to
7 30 minutes to the facility representative for an
8 introductory presentation. Thereafter, preference for
9 speaking up to one hour is given as follows:

10 For the first hour, those citizens who live
11 within a two-mile radius of the location of the
12 facility;

13 For the second hour, those citizens who work
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14 within a two-mile radius of the location of the
15 facility;

16 And for the third hour, those citizens who
17 live with the parish of the location of the
18 facility.

19 Thereafter, each hour of the hearing shall
20 alternate between those who are in support of the
21 permit action, and those who are opposed to the
22 permit action.

23 The order of speakers for tonight's hearing
24 will be based on information provided by the speaker on
25 the registration form. Anyone who registered to speak

7

1 but did not provide the necessary information will be
2 given the opportunity to speak; however, they will be
3 called last in the order of registration.

4 This hearing is being transcribed; therefore
5 I ask that each speaker begin by stating for the
6 Record, their name, address, and any organization he or
7 she may represent.

8 I also remind you to please turn off all cell
9 phones. Thank you.

10 At this time, I would like to ask the
11 facility representative to come forward and make their
12 introductory presentation.

13 Give us your name and affiliation for the
14 Record and you have 30 minutes.

15 MR. ZORNES:

16 Good evening. My name is Carl Zornes. I am
Page 6

17 Manager of Human Resources, Labor Relations, and
18 Community Relations at Murphy Oil USA, Meraux Refinery.
19 My work address is 2500 St. Bernard Highway, Meraux,
20 Louisiana. I am here tonight to provide comments to
21 this public hearing regarding the renewal and
22 modification of our Part 70 permit.

23 Murphy Oil USA, Inc. owns and operates a
24 petroleum refinery in Meraux, Louisiana. Murphy Oil is
25 submitting this application in order to renew and

8

1 modify the facility's Title V permit according to the
2 provisions in the Code of Federal Regulations and as
3 required by the Louisiana Department of Environmental
4 Quality Operating Permits Program, Chapter 5 of the
5 Administrative Code.

6 The Meraux Refinery is located in St. Bernard
7 Parish, which is an attainment area for all National
8 Ambient Air Quality Standards. The modifications being
9 sought will allow Murphy Oil to enhance its production
10 of ultra-low-sulfur fuels while reducing its
11 environmental footprint. In short, these modifications
12 will result in a better air quality for everyone.

13 Murphy Oil has owned and operated the Meraux
14 Refinery since 1962, and has significant investments in
15 the facility. For example, in 2003, Murphy Oil
16 completed the \$300 million Clean Fuels Project by
17 constructing a Hydrocracker unit and a new Sulfur Unit.

18 The Hydro Unit removes sulfur and ammonia
19 from feed to the Fluidized Catalytic Cracker, which in
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20 turn produces ultra-low-sulfur gasoline and diesel.
21 This enabled the refinery to become one of the first
22 refineries in the nation to produce ultra-low-sulfur
23 fuels to reduce emissions from mobile sources, while
24 significantly reducing emissions from the FCC. Upon
25 full implementation of the Phase II of the Clean Fuels

9

1 Project, where the Meraux Refinery produces only ultra-
2 low-sulfur diesel, annual reductions in vehicle
3 emissions of criteria pollutants would be approximately
4 6,000 tons per year.

5 More recently, Murphy Oil invested more than
6 \$300 million to restore and improve the refinery in the
7 aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Meanwhile, including
8 the projects listed in this permit application, Murphy
9 Oil plans to substantially upgrade the facility in the
10 next five years.

11 As a result of this new investment, the
12 refinery has, and will continue to upgrade its process
13 and pollution controls and continuous emissions
14 monitoring equipment.

15 (The rain increases in intensity making hearing
16 difficult.)

17 This facility is operated by the company's dedicated
18 workforce with a commitment to safety, environmental
19 stewardship, and continuous improvement.

20 Today, Murphy Oil also continues to honor its
21 long tradition of civic engagement and environmentally
22 responsibility management. Consider, for example,

23 that:

24 The company has made major contributions to the
25 efforts to rebuild and restore St. Bernard Parish

10

1 and has committed to the future of St. Bernard
2 Parish for 45 years in Meraux.

3 The Meraux Refinery provides approximately 550
4 jobs and has a \$1.2 billion impact directly and
5 indirectly on the local economy.

6 The company has worked closely with its Citizen
7 Advisory Panel and hopes to resurrect the program
8 soon. Individual and community concerns are dealt
9 with appropriately and quickly as possible.

10 Compliance with all applicable federal and state
11 pollution control regulations is the top priority
12 of all Murphy Oil employees.

13 Murphy Oil conducts daily fence line noise
14 monitoring to confirm compliance with the St.
15 Bernard Parish noise ordinance.

16 Murphy Oil participates in the LDEQ Voluntary Air
17 Monitoring Program in St. Bernard Parish.

18 The Clean Fuels Project was designed to meet
19 the EPA's mandate to reduce sulfur content in diesel
20 from 500 ppm to 50 ppm. Since then, EPA has reduced
21 the standard to 15ppm, triggering the need for Murphy
22 Oil to implement Phase II of the Clean Fuels Project.
23 Thus, Murphy Oil has proposed permit modifications to
24 enable us to:

25 - revamp the Middle Distillate Hydrotreater
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1 unit to increase Ultra-Low Sul fur Di esel
2 producti on by way of higher-capaci ty pumps
3 and a new recycle gas amine absorber;
4 - revamp the Di stillate Hydrotreater to
5 i ncrease Ul tra-Low Sul fur Di esel producti on
6 by way of higher-capaci ty pumps, heat
7 exchangers, and a new recycle gas absorber;
8 - replace the DHT gas-fi red compressor wi th
9 electric compressors to reduce NOx emi ssi ons
10 by 60 tons per year;
11 - revamp the #2 Fl uid Catalytic Cracker to NOx
12 emi ssi ons by 225 tons per year;
13 - replace hi gh-NOx Burners B-3 and B-4 wi th
14 Low-NOx Boi ler B-7 (for a net reduction of
15 NOx emi ssi ons of 36 tons per year);
16 - bui ld another Sul fur Recovery Uni t to
act as
17 a redundant pollution control device for the
18 #3 Sul fur Uni t, sharing the inci nerator wi th
19 that uni t;
20 - bui ld four new external floating roof
tanks
21 to provide for necessary overall i nventory
22 management and qual i ty control for ul tra-low
23 sul fur di esel . The tanks wi ll be si ted north
24 of the process areas, and wi ll have

1 pollution control and meet Spill Prevention,
2 Control and Countermeasures spill controls.
3 All construction will meet API

construction

4 and engineering standards.

5 As a result of these proposed modifications
6 to the refinery:

7 The refinery will be able to comply with the
8 federal low-sulfur fuel specifications that
9 require that diesel fuels have no more than 15
10 parts per million of sulfur.

11 Refinery NOx emissions will decrease by
12 approximately 207 tons per year. We will operate
13 our heaters at higher firing rates in the future
14 in order to meet lower sulfur specifications, but
15 currently permitted emissions will not increase
16 and actual NOx emissions will decrease. It should
17 also be noted that these decreases will come on
18 top of more than 176 tons per year reductions of
19 nitrogen dioxide emissions achieved as a result of
20 earlier environmental modifications undertaken at
21 the refinery.

22 Refinery reliability will improve with reduced
23 sulfur dioxide emissions. The new Sulfur
24 Reduction Unit will decrease flaring and improve
25 refinery reliability by providing spare capacity

1 for gas management and will, therefore, directly
2 reduce sulfur dioxide emissions.

3 There will be no significant impact on wastewater
4 generation, both in quality and quantity. Process
5 wastewater will be managed in an on-site
6 Wastewater Treatment Plant to meet the discharge
7 limits of our water permit. Storm water will be
8 managed to meet the discharge limits of our water
9 permit.

10 There will be no significant impact on waste
11 generation.

12 Over the past decade, the refinery has increased
13 processing capacity by 15 percent while reducing
14 permitted emissions of sulfur dioxide by 70
15 percent, NOx by 38 percent, volatile organic
16 compounds by 15 percent, and carbon monoxide by 90
17 percent.

18 In closing, Murphy Oil respectfully requests
19 LDEQ to approve the permit renewal and modification
20 package. Thank you.

21 MR. SMITH:

22 Thank you.

23 At this time I will now begin by allowing all
24 persons who have signed up to speak 5 minutes in which
25 to present their comments.

1 Anyone who needs more than 5 minutes will be

2 allowed to finish his/her comments after all the
3 registered speakers had the opportunity to speak.

4 The first to speak will be those citizens who
5 live within a two-mile radius of the location of the
6 facility.

7 Laura Coleman.

8 MS. COLEMAN:

9 Hello, everyone. Can you-all hear me?

10 (Affirmative nods from the audience.) Great. My name
11 is Laura Coleman. I am here with the newly formed
12 group CCAM, Concerned Citizens Around Murphy. I live
13 on Despaux Drive which is very, very close to Murphy
14 Oil Company.

15 What I would like to speak about tonight is a
16 major concern to all citizens of our parish: the oil
17 spill. The oil spill has affected so many people for
18 so long; the oil spill that still affects many people
19 to this day. Murphy did not have hurricane protection
20 then and they have until July 1st, 2009 to be compliant
21 with the new law that requires spill protection,
22 control, and captive measure plans. July 1st, 2009.

23 MR. SMITH:

24 Ms. Coleman, we're here for comments on the
25 air permit.

15

1

2 MS. COLEMAN:

3 Only that?

4 MR. SMITH:

stop. 5 Yes, ma'am. I have to ask that you

6 MS. COLEMAN:

7 This is for an air permit only?

8 MR. SMITH:

9 That is correct.

10 (Ms. Coleman relinquishes the microphone.)

11 MR. SMITH:

12 Thank you.

13 (The rain continues pouring down and seeps into holes
14 in the window coverings.)

15 MR. SMITH:

16 Our next registered speaker is Karen Harden.

17 I have to remind everyone that the permit that
18 we're here taking comments on is a proposed air
19 operating permit renewal and modification and
20 associated environmental assessment statement.

21 There is some information in the back of the room
22 if you'd like to look at it later.

23 MS. HARDEN:

24 Hi. My name is Karen Harden. I live at 2201
25 Despaux Drive, two streets from Murphy.

16

1 I can tell you that on a daily basis
2 horrible odors permeate the air. You can't barbecue;
3 you can't go out. Just yesterday I had to contact
4 Murphy because black smoke was going up into the air.
5 Of course, they didn't see it. I have it on videotape
6 I offered to show them.

7 This is the kind of thing that we can't let
8 them increase. We can't breathe now. St. Bernard has
9 one of the highest rates in the nation -- it's above
10 the national average -- of cancer. Increased emissions
11 will not help that. Look around, folks. People are
12 dying. We don't want more pollution in the air. We
13 want less.

14 Until Murphy can prove to us that they are
15 containing their emissions that are below the standard,
16 why would we say okay send out more? Why would we want
17 our children breathing more? That's the question we
18 need to ask the DEQ. That's the question we need to
19 ask each other.

20 I want Murphy as part of St. Bernard. They
21 do a lot of good things and we want them here. But we
22 want them to work with us to keep things where they
23 should be. We want to be around to see them grow but
24 more importantly to see our children grow. Thank you.

25 I'd like to add this as an exhibit.

17

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. SMITH:

3 Accept this as Exhibit 1. Mark Exhibit 1
and
4 enter it into the Record.

5 The next registered speaker is Ms. Cynthia
6 Gabb.

7 MS. GABB:

8 My name is Cynthia Gabb. I live at 2400
9 Charles Drive. And the reason why I'm standing up here

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10 talking is that we want the buffer zone to stay the way
11 it's going to be outlined. Okay?

12 The new property that was just bought
13 recently from (inaudible) behind the refinery. We don't
14 want that to become additional parking lot. We don't
15 want it to be a new tank, anything that has to do with
16 production. We want it to stay a buffer zone. We
17 don't want it a parking lot. We don't want it a
18 driveway and transports bumping through. We don't want
19 any complex facility. We don't want any storage tank.

20 Please understand that the area that was in
21 the buyout area is getting closer to a school, closer
22 to buildings in the district, so we want the refinery
23 to stay in an allowable (inaudible) Jacob Drive people
24 don't want them to expand any further west towards the
25 school, towards homes. Thank you.

18

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. SMITH:

3 I will accept this for the Record as Exhibit

4 2.

5 Our next speaker is Suzanne Kneale.

6 MS. KNEALE:

7 (Speaking more softly than previous two speakers or
8 rain sounds louder.)

9 Thank you. Can you hear me? Okay.

10 My name is Suzanne Kneale. I live at 2114
11 Corinne Drive (inaudible). I oppose the permit. We're
12 requesting the following action be completed before the

13 air permit is renewed:

14 - Require (inaudible) control, equipment
15 technology to assure that (inaudible) emissions from
16 the plant--

17 MR. SMITH:

18 Everybody, we're going to take a brief
19 recess.

20 (There was a recess as rain water seeped inside the
21 tent requiring rearranging electrical equipment and the
22 rain pounded on overhead ventilators drowning out the
23 speaker.)

24 MR. SMITH:

25 Everybody take your seats, please. We're

19

1 going to try to get through this before we get washed
2 away. The time is now 6:48 p.m. We don't have much of
3 an audience and a torrential rain, but without further
4 ado, I'm going to allow Ms. Kneale to step back up here
5 for her comments.

6 MS. KNEALE:

7 Thank you. Can you hear me? Okay.

8 My name is Suzanne Kneale. I live at 2114
9 Corinne Drive in Chalmette. And I oppose the permit.
10 We're requesting the following action be completed
11 before the air permit is renewed:

12 - Require updated control, equipment, and
13 technology to ensure there are no further increased
14 emissions in these expansions.

15 Murphy's toxic release inventory has already
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16 adversely affected our health and safety and private
17 property. In addition to Murphy's seep (phonetic) fire
18 and accidental recent spill, we are exposed to far more
19 emissions than currently permitted. There is nothing
20 in the permit which assures the totality of emissions
21 be safe nor in compliance.

22 - Require Murphy to update all pollution and
23 monitoring controls including fence line monitoring,
24 continuous monitoring of layers, tanks, terminals,
25 processors, pipelines, truck, river and rail traffic.

20

1 Facility update pollution controls are usually required
2 when a significant plant modification has increased
3 emissions.

4 - Require Murphy to submit an exact plan of
5 where the new storage tanks will be, what would be
6 stored in them, pollution updates, emergency and
7 hurricane updates, and secondary containment dikes for
8 all tanks.

9 - Require noise abatement and monitoring for
10 current plant processing, expansion, turnaround, and
11 construction.

12 - Require Murphy to submit an exact plan and
13 commitment regarding the residential properties it is
14 acquiring in the buffer zone. Once we get these
15 assurances the permit's compliances will not be
16 compromised with the future use of the buffer zone.
17 Maintain existing zone in the buffer zone, maintain
18 Murphy's fence line east of Jacob Drive, assurance the

19 buffer zone will not compromise our fire station at
20 Jacob Drive nor our infrastructure for the streets,
21 sewerage and storm drain systems.
22 - Require hurricane and emergency preparedness
23 updates.
24 - Require time lines be prepared and monitoring
25 of emissions of all the equipment.

21

1 - Require specific equipment and controls to
2 assure the totality of emissions are the lowest
3 achievable levels.
4 In Murphy's Environmental Assessment Survey,
5 they incorrectly state the cost to the community as a
6 result of the Meraux Refinery are minimal,
7 insignificant, local environmental impact. There is no
8 dollar amount of taxes paid or jobs provided that would
9 justify the number of cancer deaths, asthma victims,
10 sleep deprivation, hearing loss, or other health and
11 environmental damages we have already borne. Murphy
12 would receive all the economic benefits and the
13 residents there all the environmental impacts.
14 The technical parts of the permit are too
15 difficult to understand. We rely on the DEQ to be the
16 experts who protect our health and well being, to
17 monitor Murphy, to enforce requirements, and to require
18 Murphy to install the proper controls and specific
19 equipment that would deal the most achievable
20 measurements with available technology regardless of
21 the cost to Murphy as we are bearing all the

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22 environmental costs on our health and property.

23 And I'd like to submit this into the Record.

24 MR. SMITH:

25 We accept this as an exhibit. We are on No.

22

1 3? Exhibit 3. Thank you.

2 All right. Our next registered speaker is

3 Mr. Steve Bordelon.

4 MR. BORDELON:

5 I'm Steve Bordelon. I live at 3209 East

6 Judge Perez Drive. I'm the owner of Steve's RV Center.

7 I agree with not allowing them to increase their

8 emissions with this permit. I think that it's a bad

9 idea to have Murphy expand because they're not

10 controlling what they're doing now; I don't think. And

11 I just support what everybody's been saying and I have

12 the same thoughts.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MR. SMITH:

16 Thank you.

17 Our next speaker will be Kenneth Ford.

18 MR. FORD:

19 Hello. My name is Kenneth Ford. I live at

20 No. 4 Gallo Drive in Chalmette. I work for the St.

21 Bernard Police Department Environmental Quality Unit.

22 I'd like to read a statement about being here.

23 Members of the St. Bernard Citizens Environmental

24 Quality support Concerned Citizens Around Murphy, CCAM,

25 interests which are addressed at this hearing. We also

23

1 object to the granting of any permits to Murphy Oil USA
2 until a community meeting with Murphy Oil staff and
3 residents of St. Bernard to discuss the details with
4 the granting of this permit or granting of any permits
5 issued by DEQ that do indeed affect the health or
6 property of St. Bernard residents.

7 This permit requests conditions that are
8 contrary to the Louisiana DEQ rules and regulations.
9 Louisiana Air Emissions Permits, General Conditions
10 Title 33, part 3, Air chapter. General Provisions: The
11 Mission of DEQ. By virtue of Article 30, No. 2011, the
12 air quality program within the Department of
13 Environmental Quality has established the intent and
14 purpose of maintaining the purity of the air we breathe
15 in the state of Louisiana consistent with the
16 protection of health and physical property of the
17 people.

18 Page 1, paragraph B, General Provisions: This
19 general provision does not authorize the maintenance of
20 a nuisance or a danger to public health.

21 The definition of obnoxious is very offensive
22 and unpleasant. The DEQ's definition of a nuisance is
23 anything that's lawfully or purposefully used for
24 damage. The DEQ's definition of public nuisance: any
25 conditions of or in the air beyond the property line of

1 the offending person which is offensive to the senses
2 for which court or constitutes an obstruction to the
3 free use of property so as to interfere with the
4 public's enjoyment of life and property. Requesting
5 the DEQ said in the past the DEQ finds that the social
6 and economic benefits of the proposed permit will
7 outweigh greatly adverse environmental impact. The
8 social and environmental benefits outweigh the adverse
9 impact of general property. Notably, the Louisiana
10 constitution requires balancing that particular impact
11 as an exclusive goal. We ask that this permit be
12 tabled until the broad issue is addressed. Let the
13 Record show I am in support of St. Bernard Citizens.
14 (Applause.)

15 MR. SMITH:

16 Thank you. These two pages are being
17 accepted. We accept this into the Record for Exhibit
18 4.

19 Our next registered speaker is Mr. Danny
20 Larson.

21 MR. LARSON:

22 Thank you. My name is Danny Larson. I'm the
23 director of the National Refinery Reform Campaign.
24 That is a national coalition of refinery neighbors.
25 I'm here tonight to support the Concerned Citizens

1 Around Murphy in their opposition to this permit.

2 I agree with the comments that were made by
3 CCAM and Suzanne Kneale, in particular, about the
4 inadequacies of the information that have been provided
5 to date on the permit, including the lack of location
6 of the tanks which is critical to the neighbors,
7 especially after the disaster in Katrina.

8 But in addition, the details of how they're
9 netting out these emissions, where they're going,
10 whether there is pollution trading on the books or
11 whether it's really real. There are a number of good
12 things in the project around low NOx boilers and things
13 that will reduce pollution.

14 However, the addition of the tanks is a
15 significant source of air pollution and the
16 controversial technique of the oxygen feed to the FCC
17 unit, I'm not convinced that that's really something
18 that's workable. And we have engineers looking into
19 that.

20 There's a number of other things in the
21 permit that are vague and really impossible for anybody
22 else to independently verify complaints that are being
23 made by Murphy in their proposal. So we agree that at
24 this point they should meet with the Concerned Citizens
25 Around Murphy, St. Bernard citizens who have their

1 concerns, answer all of those questions. Get the facts
2 out on the table and have a good discussion about how
3 the good things that are in the proposal can be, you
4 know, put in. Because of the need for pollution

5 reduction at Murphy, but also how some of the questions
6 could be answered and identify if there's more
7 opportunities to reduce pollution around Murphy.

8 I'm going to submit this to the Record today.
9 Together with the Louisiana Bucket Brigade we operated
10 a real time monitoring system down into Murphy. Today
11 that was just another reason it was taking it out
12 between Jacob and Trailer Park Row and we got down into
13 what everybody around Murphy calls "that Murphy smell."
14 A lot of you in the room know what that smell is.
15 Okay?

16 Well, today I can tell you unlike the DEQ
17 monitors which can't move around when the wind does --
18 they're stuck in certain places -- or Murphy themselves
19 because they'd be monitoring their own flame. But I
20 can tell you what's in that smell and it's not a pretty
21 picture. There's benzene in that smell. We were
22 getting readings from, you know, 5 to 20 parts per
23 billion.

24 The State of Louisiana sets its annual
25 ambient standard at about 3. Okay? So what I'm saying

27

1 is monitoring of the Murphy Refinery and in
2 particularly regarding this permit needs to be
3 dramatically improved.

4 Because it's my belief, having been down
5 there a few times before doing different types of
6 monitoring and seeing the results today, that this
7 refinery is violating the state's ambient standard for

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8 benzene which is a known carcinogen - causes leukemia.
9 It's a very serious chemical. In the mix of emission
10 is toluene, xylene. Benzene, toluene, and xylene are
11 all components of gasoline. So those are things we
12 expect to find coming off a refinery but not at a
13 constant level like this.

14 We also looked at a few others too. We also
15 saw some hints of sulfur dioxide coming off of the
16 refinery today, some nitrogen oxides. So we saw some
17 other pollutants and another sulfur compound known as
18 carbon disulfide which is not. So it's a cocktail.
19 You're breathing a chemical cocktail when you smell
20 that stuff. It's not just a bad odor.

21 Mr. Ford is right. Even if we disagree about
22 that, it's a violation of the State's public nuisance
23 standard. It's a violation of DEQ's general provision
24 in the permit and that needs to be enforced before any
25 more permits are issued. We need to get this all

28

1 resolved and they can certainly clean that up.

2 So I'll submit this tonight and we'll be
3 working with you throughout the process here and
4 hopefully with Murphy as well to try to get these
5 things resolved, get this problem cleaned up. Thank
6 you.

7 (Loud applause from audience.)

8 MR. SMITH:

9 Thank you.

10 We accept your exhibit for the Record as No.

11 6. Excuse me. It's No. 5.

12

Okay.

13 Next speaker Holly Withington.
(No response.)

14 Elise Cahn.

15 MS. CAHN:

16 My name is Elise Cahn. I'm with the
17 Louisiana Bucket Brigade and we're here to represent
18 along with the National Refinery Reform Campaign
19 working with the Concerned Citizens Around Murphy.
20 We're asking the DEQ to postpone the arrival
21 on this permit until we, the neighbors of Murphy Oil,
22 can ask their questions. Central to these questions
23 are the concerns about the vagueness of the permit
24 application. The construction of the three tanks is
25 requested yet Murphy does not state where those tanks

29

1 will be or what would be stored in them. Tanks are
2 sensitive issues since the refinery has not got the
3 tank maintenance and management of the million gallon
4 oil spill.

5 Neighbors still complain of the oil odors in
6 their yard and several homes have been waiting for over
7 a month for Murphy to bring new soil after the refinery
8 alleged cleanup of their property. Thank you.

9 MR. SMITH:

10 Okay. That's all the speakers we have
11 registered. Is there anyone that would like to speak?

12 MS. COLEMAN:

13 Hello, everyone. Here I am again.

14 I was trying to speak about the oil spill
15 earlier.

16 MR. SMITH:

17 Would you give us your name and address?

18 MS. COLEMAN:

19 Excuse me?

20 MR. SMITH:

21 Give your name, address, and representation.

22 MS. COLEMAN:

23 My name is Laura Coleman. I live at 2129
24 Despaux Drive, two blocks from Murphy. I was speaking
25 about the oil spill and was told that this is about air

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1 emissions only.

2 Well, I wondered if the oil or the chemicals
3 in the oil didn't go in the air, where'd they go? The
4 tanks at Murphy were not hurricane protected. Now they
5 want more tanks. I do not think this is a good idea.
6 Why would we give them more when they couldn't protect
7 what they already have? Do we need more oil?

8 The law that says Murphy must be in
9 compliance with hurricane protection will not be valid
10 until July 1st 2009. That means since the oil spill, we
11 would be in our fourth hurricane season before
12 compliance is met. I don't know, people, but I think
13 Murphy had better control what they have now before
14 they are allowed to have more. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. SMITH:

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17 Would anyone else like to come forward and
18 speak?

19 Just give us your name and address.

20 MR. MILTON SMITH:

21 Hello. I'm a resident of St. Bernard Parish.
22 My name is Milton Smith, Sr. I live at 2012 Despaux
23 Drive. I'd just like to say I'm against any permits
24 for expansions Murphy would like to have.

25 I also would like to say that I'd like to see

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1 my son and other kids grow up, not have cancer, or
2 emphysema of any toxic waste that Murphy shells out. I
3 would like to go on about the oil spill but I have a
4 thousand things I'd like to say but I'm not sure I can
5 say any of it. So I'm going to end it at that. Thank
6 you very much.

7 (Applause.)

8 MS. POINOT:

9 Hi. I'm Margie Poinot, 2000 Marietta Street,
10 Chalmette, Louisiana. I'm not a public speaker by any
11 means so this will be very short. The only thing I
12 have to say is that this parish is right now trying to
13 recover. We're trying to get our residents to come
14 home again. I am currently looking for a home to buy.

15 I wanted to stay in this parish and was all
16 set to do so and I hear about this. Well, guess what?
17 It wasn't good before with the air pollution. Now it's
18 only getting worse. How are we going to rebuild? How
19 are we going to tell people come home again? Because

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20 guess what? Murphy's big. Murphy's bad. And Murphy's
21 getting worse.
22 Enough is enough. We have to live here. I
23 just think we should say no. Let us rebuild; let us
24 get our parish back and then we'll consider letting
25 Murphy expand. Thank you.

32

1 (Applause.)
2 MR. SMITH:
3 Thank you.
4 Would anyone else like to come forward?
5 Anybody?
6 (No response.)
7 All right. Are there any other comments?
8 (Audience replies: We can't hear you.)
9 MR. SMITH:
10 Can you hear me now?
11 I would like to remind you that commentary
12 for this proposed permit and associated EAS for Murphy
13 Oil USA, Incorporated / Meraux Refinery ends at 12:30
14 p.m., Thursday, June 21, 2007.
15 I have received a total of 5 exhibits during
16 this hearing.
17 If there are no other comments, I would like
18 to thank you for your attention and participation in
19 this hearing.
20 Let the Record reflect that the time is now
21 7:11 p.m. This hearing is closed.
22

23 (Reporter's Note: The exhibits were retained by the
24 Hearing Officer.)
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REPORTER'S PAGE

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10 I, Dorothy H. Schmit, Certified Court
11 Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, the
12 officer, as defined in Rule 28 of the Federal Rules of
13 Civil Procedure and/or Article 1434(b) of the Louisiana
14 Code of Civil Procedure, before whom this testimony was
15 taken, do hereby state on the Record:

16 That due to the interaction in the
17 spontaneous discourse of this proceeding, dashes (-)
18 have been used to indicate pauses, changes in thought,
19 and/or talkovers; that same is the proper method for a
20 court reporter's transcription of the proceeding, and
21 that the dashes do not indicate that words or phrases
22 have been left out of this transcript;

23 That any words and/or names which could not be
24 verified through reference material have been denoted
25 with the phrase "(phonetic)."

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Dorothy H. Schmit, CCR
Certified Court Reporter
Louisiana License # 23039

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Dorothy H. Schmitt, Certified Court Reporter, in
and for the State of Louisiana, as the officer before
whom this hearing was taken, do hereby certify that the
proceedings as hereinbefore set forth in the foregoing
34 pages was reported by me in the Stenomask (voice-
writing) method, was prepared and transcribed by me,
and is a true and correct transcript to the best of my
ability and understanding, and I am a valid member in
good standing of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners
of Certified Shorthand Reporters.

Dorothy H. Schmitt

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